

He leaves behind his devoted wife Paula; three daughters, Lea Ann, Ellyn, and Kate; and four sons, Larry, Donald, Joel, and Richard. May his legacy of service and kind spirit serve as an inspiration to us all.●

REMEMBERING COLONEL JAMES A. SMITH, JR.

● Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable life of Retired Colonel James A. Smith, Jr., a 31 year veteran of the Illinois Army National Guard who passed away on May 11, 2022.

Colonel Smith started his career in 1977 as an enlisted soldier, commissioning in 1982 through the Illinois Army National Guard's Officer Candidate School. He served in various staff and leadership positions throughout his career in the Illinois National Guard.

In 2003, Colonel Smith was appointed as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (G-1). In this role, he played an integral role in preparing Illinois Army National Guard units for deployment to Iraq and then Afghanistan. In 2008, before his retirement, he was appointed as the Illinois Army National Guard chief of staff before being appointed the Illinois Department of Military Affairs chief of staff that same year.

As the IDMA chief of staff, Colonel Smith supported multiple Illinois National Guard deployments, the Illinois National Guard's response to floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, the 2012 NATO Summit in Chicago, and most recently, the Illinois National Guard's COVID-19 response, as well as law enforcement support missions.

Colonel Smith was proud of being an infantry officer, a devout Catholic, and an unwavering Cardinals fan. He was a strong advocate for Lincoln's Challenge Academy and its cadets, the Illinois Military Family Relief Fund, the Illinois State Military Museum, the National Guard Association of Illinois, and, most of all, the soldiers and airmen of the Illinois National Guard and their families.

Colonel Jim Smith's voice will not be heard again in the Illinois National Guard's buildings or training areas, but his spirit will remain within this organization for many generations to come. He leaves behind his wife Nilsa and their son Sam. May his legacy of service and kind spirit serve as an inspiration to us all.●

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT ROBINSON

● Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today, I want to recognize and offer my sincere congratulations to Scott Robinson, director of the Port of Muskogee, on his retirement after 31 years of service. I have had the pleasure of working with Scott for a number of years, and we have done a lot of good work together.

When I came to Congress, I set out with the notion to let the world know that Oklahoma is navigable, and with

Scott's help, we have been able to do that. He has been a long-time advocate for Oklahoma's inland waterways, serving on various waterways boards and commissions and testifying before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

Through his advocacy and leadership, Scott and I worked quickly to help the Port of Muskogee recover after the historic 2019 floods that decimated the Arkansas River Basin, including working to deliver millions of dollars to ensure the port could rebuild for the future. Under Scott's tenure, the port has grown tremendously as he oversaw the port's expansion of property that has allowed industries to invest over \$2 billion into the port's facilities and create more than 2,500 jobs. Because of Scott, the port is a true multimodal transportation hub for the region.

As port director, Scott never missed an opportunity to highlight the importance of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System—MKARNS—and its contribution to the long-term strength and security of the U.S. economy, including supporting thousands of jobs, and providing billions of dollars in sales impacts and transportation costs savings. His tireless work throughout the years has ensured that the Port of Muskogee and MKARNS system will continue to serve Oklahoma and our Nation for decades to come. Oklahoma and the entire Nation have benefited greatly from his leadership, and his legacy will not be soon forgotten.

Congratulations again, Scott, on your well-deserved retirement.●

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINNESOTA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today, I am proud to stand with my colleague, Senator SMITH, to recognize an organization that has meant so much to the people of Minnesota.

On June 4, 2022, the Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government Program celebrates its 75th anniversary. The Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government Program is a youth-led, nonpartisan, experiential learning program that develops and promotes lifelong, active, responsible citizenship in our youth. Annually, the program brings middle and high school students from across Minnesota to create a mock State government in the State capitol, complete with legislative branches for upper and lower classmen, a court, an executive branch, lobbyists, and a press corps.

The program has been developing tomorrow's leaders since 1946 and, since that time, has served over 54,000 middle school and high school students. Today, the Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government program stands as one of the largest and longest running Youth in Government programs in the Nation.

Through Youth in Government, students learn to write bills, debate issues, argue court cases, elect their

own leaders, and actively participate in an authentic model of real-life legislative, executive, and judicial processes and structures. Youth in Government students learn about the importance of accountability, responsibility, and the value of getting involved in civic affairs while developing self-confidence and learning their voices matter and need to be heard within the State's—and Nation's—policy and decision-making process.

This vital program creates an environment for students to have meaningful and respectful conversations where students can learn from each other about today's issues while fully acknowledging that each student brings a different life experience to the table, a skill that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. It is through this experience that Youth in Government teaches young people that they have an important and immediate stake in the decisions that shape the future of not only the State of Minnesota, but of their Nation and the world.

The program motto for Minnesota Youth in Government is "Democracy must be learned by each generation," which is more important today than ever.

I ask that my colleagues join Ms. SMITH and myself in honoring the Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government Program.

50TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF REV. DR. CALVIN MCKINNEY

● Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize and congratulate my friend the Reverend Dr. Calvin McKinney on his 50th pastoral anniversary. Pastor McKinney has served as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of North Jersey since 1972.

Pastor McKinney's ministry is guided by Teaching and Growing a Praying People of God, whether at home in New Jersey, across our Nation, or around the world. His ministry has taken him throughout Africa, Europe, Asia, Central America, and the Caribbean Islands. Of his many accomplishments, Pastor McKinney's most memorable preaching opportunity was during the centennial session of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., in Birmingham, AL, in 1980.

In September 2009, Pastor McKinney was elected general secretary of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. He served as the youngest moderator in the history of the North Jersey District Missionary Baptist Association from 1986 to 1990, and served from 1996 through 2000 in an unprecedented tenure as one of the youngest presidents in the history of the 300,000-member General Baptist Convention of New Jersey, Inc. He was named president emeritus in recognition of his exemplary leadership.

In 2003, under the visionary leadership of Pastor McKinney, Calvary started on a journey to build a \$10 million, 1,500-seat sanctuary along with

educational, fellowship, and administrative facilities. On March 19, 2006, the congregation of Calvary moved into their new home.

Pastor McKinney's extraordinary pastoral leadership is matched by his extraordinary role as a community leader. For 50 years, he has touched the lives of countless people and communities. In addition to lifting and guiding their spiritual formation, he has met the needs of his local community through the Calvary Community Development Center, CCDC. Since 1998, CCDC has empowered people and the community in order to knock down economic and social barriers. It is a resource for those who are in need of food, clothing, and emergency assistance.

Pastor McKinney finds time to serve in a multitude of ways. He presently serves as chair of the Commission on Faith-Based Initiatives for the State of New Jersey. He serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the U.C.C. Day Care Center No. 100; trustee, Passaic County Community College; a board member of the Bergen County Urban League, NJ; an executive board member of the Garfield/Lodi Branch of the NAACP, NJ; and a member of Mt. Zion Lodge No. 50, F. & A.M. (PHA) of Hackensack, NJ.

Pastor McKinney is the embodiment of a spirit-filled and joyful life. His greatest joy comes from his beautiful family. He and his wife Brendalyn are the proud parents of three children: Terence Lamar, Gina Lynelle, and Calvin James; and the proud grandparents of Terence Laquan, Timothy Lamar, and Mason James.

In the Book of Matthew 5:16 we are taught, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." For 50 years, Pastor McKinney has been more than just a shining light; he is truly a beacon of faith, hope, and love. His ministry blesses us all.●

RECOGNIZING BENEDICTINE COLLEGE RAVENS WOMEN'S LACROSSE

● Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today, I would like to congratulate the Benedictine Ravens on a wonderful 2022 season and their NAIA National Championship victory.

Winning a national championship is no easy feat. It takes years of dedication, and this championship is the result of that dedication. You have made your school, as well as our entire State, proud. This national championship is particularly special as it is the first ever for the Benedictine Women's Lacrosse team and the first for the college since 1967.

I know many of you came here to play lacrosse, but along the way, I hope you have made lifelong friends, learned valuable lessons about hard work and determination, and given back to this community.

What makes this victory even more special is the adversity these women

had to overcome. Senior Natalie Wechter, the reigning NAIA National Player of the Year, injured her knee in the semifinals. Despite this setback, through persistence and grit, the Ravens edged out their opponents by a score of 9-8.

Winning a national championship is also a full team effort. I would like to recognize a few outstanding members of the team: Ms. Wechter, as well as Clare Ryan, Aiden McEnerney, Erica Odell, and Rianna England, who received All-American honors. Additionally, Ms. Odell was named the tournament MVP.

It is also worth mentioning that this was head coach Clare Hanson's first year in the position. I congratulate all on these accomplishments.

Winning this tournament is one of those things small colleges remember and discuss for decades. It is a shared win that the whole Benedictine and Atchison community gets to appreciate and take pride in.

I commend you and the entire team for your hard work and dedication. Congratulations to the 2022 NAIA women's lacrosse champion Ravens.●

REMEMBERING ANGIE RUVO

● Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved member of the Las Vegas community, Angie Ruvo, who passed away this month at the age of 98. Recognized as Las Vegas' first celebrity chef, Angie, along with her husband Lou, her sister Maria, brother-in-law Al, and son Larry, established the Venetian Pizzeria in downtown Las Vegas in 1955—the first pizza restaurant in Las Vegas. Later known as the Venetian Ristorante and Pizzeria, the famed restaurant hosted a wide array of clientele, ranging from celebrities such as Frank Sinatra—a customer so loyal he enlisted a bellman to pick up dinner for him from there every night—to tourists who traveled from across the country and all over the world to experience the warmth and comfort of Angie's cooking.

Born in Niagara Falls, Angie became the matriarch of the Las Vegas restaurant scene almost as soon as she came to Nevada, but her remarkable legacy in the Silver State goes beyond her business and culinary achievements. When her late husband Lou was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, Angie embraced the role of devoted caregiver. Sharing her own experience and advice with other caregivers became a significant role for Angie, and she frequently reminded other caregivers of the importance of self-care. In 2009, Larry Ruvo and his wife Camille opened the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in his father's memory. In honor of her 94th birthday, Larry and Camille created the Angie Ruvo Endowed Caregiving Chair, which provides financial support to caregiving research at the Lou Ruvo Center.

In addition to being a champion for caregivers, Angie dedicated her life to

charitable work in her community and was honored by various organizations over the years, including receiving the Augustus Society's Justinian Award, presented to notable Nevada Italian Americans. A woman praised and recognized by Senators and celebrities alike—and for whom Nevada Governors issued official proclamations—Angie lived a life of philanthropy, generosity, and dedication. Her passing marks an immeasurable loss to her family, our community, and the Nation. May her memory be a blessing.●

TRIBUTE TO KIRK MILLER

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I would like to share a few words today to honor an outstanding Montana educator who is retiring at the end of this school year.

Kirk Miller has dedicated his career to bettering the lives of the next generation of Montanans. Over the years, Kirk served as a teacher, a principal, and a superintendent before being appointed to the Montana Board of Public Education where he later served as chair. I first got to know Kirk Miller when I was a State senator, and he was the superintendent of schools in Havre, MT. I found him to be somebody who was dedicated above all to the kids' education, somebody who knew the value of public education and always did his best to make sure our kids got an education that would allow them to compete in the worldwide economy. As Bozeman schools superintendent, Kirk played a key role in improving infrastructure for students for years to come. He championed numerous successful initiatives that supported that strengthened public education in the region and serve as a template for other communities to follow.

At the end of this year, Kirk will be retiring from his most recent position as executive director of the School Administrators of Montana, where he has worked tirelessly to support administrators and educators across the State. Those who have been lucky enough to work with Kirk recognize that he has a knack for connecting with people, even those who have different views than his own. And his passion for public education shines through in everything he does.

Under Kirk's leadership, the School Administrators of Montana established the Leaders Professional Learning Program, or SAM LPLP, a mentorship program that brings administrators from across the State together to receive student-focused, solution-based professional development training. The SAM LPLP has served more than 500 administrators to date. As a former public school teacher I commend Kirk for his steadfast commitment to improving our school system from the top down.

In addition to his work, Kirk has a lot to be proud of—in particular, the wonderful family he has built with his wife of 42 years, Nan.

A lifelong educator and a dear friend to many, Kirk has shown through his